

WASHINGTON CRITIC

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 8, 1857.

THE PASSING SHOW.
You were a baughty beauty, Polly,
(That was in the play),
I was the boy underneath.
The boy in the play;
And when your fan and you rec'd.,
All and my passion lay undressed,
It still with tender words I pleased,
That was in the play!

I met my rival at the gateway,
(That was in the play),
And when your fan and you rec'd.,
But when Jack hurt my arm mighty,
And you rushed over, soft-slept newly,
And kissed me, Polly! Truly, truly,
Was that in the play?

—Louisa L. Inglesby.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

At the Murray Hill Hotel last night, says Tuesday's New York *Globe*, Professor Julius H. Scelye of Amherst College was one of the guests. He is 41 in his 63d year, with a pleasant New England typical face. The Professor's first efforts in the way of preaching began up in Syracuse, N. Y., back in 1832, where he was pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church and from which he graduated, with the consent of the trustees, because his views of this life and of the future had broadened out before the limits laid down by that sturdy and conservative old faith. He then took up his pen as a teacher, and was a man among men, a successful and best loved educator in the land. Only once did the Professor leave his beloved books, and that was in 1851, when, without a nomination of any kind, without the expenditure of a single dollar, by an uprising of the people against the Republican machine, he was elected to Congress from his home district in Massachusetts. But on the 1st of August, Mr. Hill and his wife were glad to bid adieu to him at Amherst, from the suspicion of which not even the offer to make him Governor of Massachusetts has swayed the great scholar.

Concerning Henry Villard, the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia *Times* says: Mr. Villard is now fifty-four years old and is believed to be worth a million or more. He is a Bavarian by birth and his real name is Heinrich Hildebrand, although he long since abandoned it for reasons of his own. Some say he dropped it as soon as he landed in this country, because after several vain attempts to procure a situation, he was advised to "try under another name"; and others say he did not think it euphonious enough and so discarded it after leaving home. To his personal friends he never mentions the subject, and if others are rash enough to question him about it they usually go off with the provincial idea in their ear. At length the newspaper man in early life, he is said to be one of the most retentive of the Wall street brokers, revealing the little Wizard himself in the manner in which he forgets to tell his plans. At fifty-four his health and appetite are good, and he is said to sleep like a conscience clear boy of twelve. His friends believe in him thoroughly and they are willing to bet that ten more years will see him in possession of his former prestige, with considerably more added to it. He married a daughter of William Lloyd Garrison in 1856.

Thus moralizes the Philadelphia *News* on "Miss Grundy's Summer." The out-of-town season is over. The hotel-keeper is busy balancing his books. Mr. Grundy is figuring on his check stub to see what the summer has cost him, and Mrs. Grundy is back on Chestnut street planning for the winter season. But what of Miss Grundy? She is back, too, but not the same Miss Grundy who left the city in July. Her complexion is a little less fresh, her laugh is not quite as frank, her smile not quite as ingenuous. The summer has cost her something, and that not little. Three months at the seaside, with long idleness, monotony, and nothing to think about but last evening, which had better be forgotten! A succession of men who worshipped at her shrine, honest, many fellows, some of them, who meant what they said and had a great deal! Can any woman dance to such a tune as this and not pay the piper? It is pleasant at first, this idleness, the variety and novelty of it all. But no woman can bear the same smile on a pair of sunburnt fingers and not lose some little of her womanliness. It is wrong, pitifully wrong, this summer accumulating business, and while papa is casting up his accounts Miss Grundy has a debit and credit to foot up in which she is, alas! the loser.

Says McFarland in the Philadelphia *Record*: General Greely has taken down the Weather Bureau signs, anerometers, thermometers and other weather measures and indicators from the roof of the building on G street, near the War Department, where they have stood since the Weather Bureau was first established under General Albert J. Myers. "Old Probabilities" is about to put them up again, I am told, on top of one of the most interesting old buildings in Washington. It is what is known as the Octagon House, a low and broad structure of English brick, built early in the century by one of the old proprietors of what is now Washington, and now belonging to the Treasury. It is a very large building, with the White House to its right, and the ghost of the ghost was here repaired after General Ross' soldiers had gone through it. No one but the ghost has lived in it for years and years, although Blesser Clymer of Pennsylvania talked of doing so just before he died. I don't know what the ghost will say to General Greely's intrusion, but I would not be surprised if the oldfashioned spirit is kept waiting for difficulties all the time should the eight recent shock such as that "earthquake" has never felt.

The St. Paul *Globe* says of Senators Beck and Blackburn of Kentucky: "Do you know Beck and Blackburn, the two Kentucky Senators?" asked a former Kentuckian recently. "Well, I'll tell you about them. It is singular that two men of such distinct characteristics should be colleagues in the Senate. Jim Beck and Joe Blackburn are antipodes. One is everything that the other is not. Beck is brusque and

brave. Blackburn is oily and wily. Beck is a sled hammer speaker, who drives the nail right home at the first blow. When Blackburn speaks he fascinates the room with banquets, and when he has finished, you have no recollection of what he said. You give him time to think, and you give him time to think, and the simple proposition to state that twice two makes four, Beck will state it in just that language, and everybody will grasp it at once. But Blackburn will come at it in about this way: 'I will take the figure I then duplicate it, and when I have combined that duplicate with its equivalent by a process of multiplication, will verify the result.' And when you have the full est satisfaction that I can demonstrate it to you beyond all possibility of doubt, and I wish it understood, my fellow-countrymen, that I always stand ready to verify my assertions, even to the spilling of my heart's blood, that when these multiples have been combined and adjusted in the manner I have heretofore indicated, you will find a startling result, that the combined totals produced the number 4. This can be in one sentence, what it will take Blackburn a half hour to circumvent."

COLUMBIA HOSPITAL

The following objects and highly successful work.

Prominent among the many benevolent institutions of Washington stands Columbia Hospital for Women and Lying-in Asylum of the District of Columbia. It, which often attracts the attention of those passing by the pleasing aspect of the buildings and grounds, occupies the entire half square of No. 25, bounded by L and M, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth streets northwest. The principal structure, which fronts on L street, is a large three-story brick building painted a light, characteristic, consisting of a main building, a wing extending to the rear, a small entrance, and a porch on the front. There are also several smaller detached buildings or out-houses, which are used as accessories to the lying-in departments in cases where isolation is advantageous for the prevention or spread of epidemic influences, etc.

The hospital stands upon a beautiful and well-kept lawn, elevated above the plan, and made of trees, a quiet haven of rest and repose. The grounds are free wards and private apartments for those desiring them, and a free dispensary is attached where patients can come and receive treatment at a nominal charge. There are also several detached buildings or out-houses, which are used as accessories to the lying-in departments in cases where isolation is advantageous for the prevention or spread of epidemic influences, etc.

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